

## Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 /030 W

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R 201616Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9678

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 1144

FOR: CU/ARA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC CS (VARGAS PERALTA, FEDERICO)

SUBJECT: IV NOMINEE FEDERICO VARGAS PERALTA

POST WISHES NOMINATE FEDERICO VARGAS PERALTA FOR AN IV GRANT. PARTS I AND II FOLLOW: FEDERICO VARGAS PERALTA, BANKING AND PUBLIC FINANCE ADVISER AND UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR; PAST POSITIONS: DIRECTOR, DEPT. OF ECONOMICS, UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO CONICIT (NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH), MANAGER COSTA RICAN ORANGE CRUSH CO., SUB-MANAGER, ACEROS NACIONALES; BORN IN CARTAGO, COSTA RICA, NOVEMBER 21, 1933, COSTA RICAN, MARRIED, MALE, FOUR SONS 13, 12, 11 AND 2 YEARS OLD; ADDRESS: URBANIZACION FRESES, CURRIDABAT, SAN JOSE; EMERGENCY ADDRESS: MARTA EUGENIA LEIVA DE VARGAS, (WIFE), SAME ADDRESS, TELEPHONE 25-48-66; GRADUATE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA, PH.D. IN ECONOMICS, UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO; SEVERAL PUBLICATIONS IN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS; TRAVELLED TO U.S. 1952-55, 1965-67; KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH EXCELLENT, DOES NOT NEED INTERPRETER; ALSO TRAVELLED TO THE U.S. IN 1960 WITH EDUCATIONAL STUDENT GROUP, 30 DAYS VISITING DAYTON, CHICAGO, PITTS., NEW YORK, WASHINGTON; AND IN 1965 WITH AN I.I.E. SCHOLARSHIP; ELIGIBLE FOR VISA; REASON FOR NOMINATION: OCCUPIES THE KEY POSITION OF BANKING AND FINANCE ADVISER IN THE MINISTRY OF THE PRESIDENCY. NATIONAL ECONOMIC COORDINATION HOLDS AN EXTREMELY HIGH PRIORITY IN THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND THERE IS A GREAT NEED FOR

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IMPROVED BUDGETARY AND POLICY COORDINATION. THE REQUEST THAT

MR. VARGAS TRAVEL TO THE U.S. AS SOON AS POSSIBLE CAME FROM THE MINISTER OF THE PRESIDENCY AND COINCIDES WITH THE POST'S DESIRE, AS EXPRESSED IN BOTH THE FY 1975 CASP AND COUNTRY PLAN, TO SEEK OUT AND ENGAGE IN PRODUCTIVE DIALOGUE ON BOTH POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES WITH OFFICIALS OF THE NEW GOCR AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS. THE MINISTER HAS TOLD US THAT THE PRESS OF WORK WOULD MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR MR. VARGAS TO BE AWAY FROM HIS JOB FOR A MONTH. IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS REQUEST, DESPITE OUR FULL REALIZATION OF THE DISADVANTAGES OF A SHORTER STAY, THE POST MUST REQUEST THAT MR. VARGAS BE PROGRAMMED FOR THREE WEEKS ONLY. HE IS ALREADY FAMILIAR WITH MANY ASPECTS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY, WILL NEED AN INTERPRETER, AND IS MOST ANXIOUS TO EXCHANGE IDEAS WITH U.S. COUNTERPARTS WHICH WILL, WE HOPE, BENEFIT COSTA RICA AND EVENTUALLY THE U.S. AS WELL. PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS: SINCE THE OBJECT OF MR. VARGAS'S VISIT TO THE U.S. IS TO OBSERVE THE WAYS IN WHICH NATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY IS COORDINATED AMONG THE VARIOUS GOVERNMENT ENTITIES IN THE U.S., WE SUGGEST THAT HE SPEND ABOUT TEN DAYS IN WASHINGTON. APPOINTMENTS COULD BE MADE AT THE COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS, OMB, ICC, SEC, IRS, THE TREASURY AND THE FEDERAL RESERVE, AS WELL AS WITH THE BUDGET AND WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS AND AT THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION. APPOINTMENTS AT THE DEPT.'S COSTA RICAN DESK AND THE NEW OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF AID FOR INTRAGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ON DEVELOPMENT AFFAIRS, HEADED BY SIDNEY WEINTRAUB, WOULD ALSO BE IN ORDER. MR. VARGAS HAS A CERTAIN INTEREST IN CONSUMERS' GROUPS, BOTH RALPH NADER'S AND SMALLER, LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND AN EVEN GREATER INTEREST IN PRICE CONTROL MECHANISMS AND THE ECONOMIC POLITICS OF FEDERAL-STATE-LOCAL RELATIONSHIPS -- HOW THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT INDUCES STATES TO REDUCE SPENDING, FOR EXAMPLE. TO STUDY THESE ISSUES FROM THE STATES' AND CITIES' POINT OF VIEW, AND TO VISIT REGIONAL FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS, A FEW DAYS IN NEW YORK CITY AND ALBANY AND, FOR CONTRAST, A VISIT TO MINNEAPOLIS AND ST. PAUL TO OBSERVE THEIR INNOVATIVE AND, WE UNDERSTAND, SUCCESSFUL FORM OF REGIONAL GOVERNMENT, SHOULD ROUND OUT A BUSY PROGRAM IN A SATISFACTORY WAY. WHILE IN WASHINGTON AREA MR. VARGAS WOULD APPRECIATE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SATISFY HIS HISTORICAL CURIOSITY

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BY VISITING SOME CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELDS. HE ENJOYS BASEBALL AND CLASSICAL MUSIC AND WOULD LIKE TO VISIT ONE OR TWO ART GALLERIES. WOULD BE ABLE TO TRAVEL AROUND MAY 5TH.

TODMAN

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